

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 13230 171306Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----119897 171308Z /47

P R 171306Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9223
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LONDON 13230

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, AO, CG
SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS IN ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN RECONCILIATION

REF: (A) LONDON 12969; (B) STATE 200867

1. KEN ROBBIE OF TANGANYIKA CONCESSIONS CALLED AT
EMBASSY AUGUST 16 BUT HAD LITTLE TO ADD TO HOOD'S
INFORMATION ON THE STATE OF THE BENGUELA RAILWAY IN
ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA (REFTEL A). HE SAID 25 PERCENT OF THE
LOCOMOTIVES IN SHABA ARE INOPERABLE AND 50 PERCENT IN
ZAMBIA. BOTH COUNTRIES SUFFER FROM POOR ADMINISTRATION
AND MAINTENANCE, AND THE CONDITIONS ON THE TANZAM RAIL-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 13230 171306Z

WAY HE DESCRIBED AS CHAOTIC, LARGELY DUE TO MISMANAGE-
MENT.

2. ROBBIE ESTIMATED THERE ARE 40,000 TO 60,000 TONS OF
COPPER STOCKPILED IN ZAMBIA WITH ANOTHER 50,000 OR SO
BACKED UP ALONG THE TANZAM LINE. COPPER IS MOVING
LABORIOUSLY AND EXPENSIVELY OUT OF SHABA VIA THE VOIE

NATIONALE, BUT 505,000 TONS OF MANGANESE ARE STOCKPILED
NEAR KOLWEZI AWAITING AN ECONOMIC FORM OF TRANSPORT.

3. ROBBIE SHOWED EMBASSY OFFICER SKETCHES OF THE DILOLO
BRIDGE PICTURING A LOCOMOTIVE ON THE ANGOLA SIDE TILTED
ABOUT 45 DEGREES INTO THE COLLAPSED SECTION OF THE
BRIDGE. ROBBIE SAID THE DAMAGE COULD BE REPAIRED IN A
MATTER OF WEEKS.

4. GIVEN PERSONNEL AND SPARES, ROBBIE ESTIMATES THE
INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY COULD RETURN TO NEAR-FULL OPERA-
TION WITHIN TWO OR THREE MONTHS WITH FORTY WAGONS PER
DAY IN EACH DIRECTION (LOBITO-DILOLO) FOR A DAILY
CAPACITY OF 12,000 TONS GOING UP AND 16,000 TONS GOING
DOWN.

BREWSTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, RAIL TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LONDON13230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780336-0526
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780854/aaaabtds.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 24adfc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 LONDON 12969, 78 STATE 200867
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1712001
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEXT STEPS IN ANGOLAN/ZAIRIAN RECONCILIATION
TAGS: PDIP, AO, CG, (ROBBIE, KEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/24adfc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014